

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs [0003] and [0004] as follows

[0003] Today, most personal computers and other high-end devices support window-based graphical user interfaces (GUIs), which were originally developed back in the 1980's. These window-based interfaces allow a user to manipulate windows through a pointing device (such as a mouse), in much the same way that pages can be manipulated on a desktop. However, because of limitations on graphical processing power at the time windows were being developed, many of the design decisions for windows were made with computational efficiency in mind. In particular, window-based systems provide a very flat (two-dimensional) 2D user experience, and windows are typically manipulated using operations that keep modifications of display pixels to a minimum. Even today's desktop environments like ~~Microsoft~~ MICROSOFT Windows WINDOWS® (distributed by the Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Washington) include vestiges of design decisions made back then. Note that MICROSOFT and WINDOWS are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries.

[0004] In recent years, because of increasing computational requirements of 3D applications, especially 3D games, the graphical processing power of personal computers and other high-end devices has increased dramatically. For example, a middle range PC graphics card, the "GeForce2 GTS" distributed by the ~~NVIDIA~~ NVIDIA™ Corporation of Santa Clara, California, provides a 3D rendering speed of 25 million polygons-per-second, and Microsoft's "~~Xbox~~" XBOX® game console provides 125 million polygons-per-second. Note that NVIDIA is a registered trademark or trademark of NVIDIA Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Also note that XBOX is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries.

These numbers are significantly better than those of high-end graphics workstation in the early 1990's, which cost tens of thousands (and even hundreds of thousands) of dollars.